

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE EXTENSION OF ANNUAL REPORT) CASE NOS. GNR-U-20-02
FILING DEADLINE DUE TO COVID-19) INT-G-20-02
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY)
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) **ORDER NO. 34622**
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In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Director of Idaho Department of Health & Welfare issued an Order to Self-Isolate for the State of Idaho (Stay-Home Order”) on March 25, 2020. The Stay-Home Order is effective through April 15, 2020, or until extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended.

Under *Idaho Code* § 61-405, each public utility must file an annual report with the Commission by April 15 of each year. Commission Staff has heard from several small public utilities that, due to the Stay-Home Order, they cannot get necessary information for the annual reports from their certified public accountants prior to the April 15, 2020 filing deadline. Similarly, Intermountain Gas Company (“Intermountain”) recently filed a petition requesting the Commission extend the filing deadline for Intermountain’s annual report to April 30, 2020. Case No. INT-G-20-02. Intermountain stated that the employees that prepare its annual report are working from home and have limited access to the records and printing capacities necessary to complete and file Intermountain’s annual report.

COMMISSION FINDINGS AND DECISION

Under *Idaho Code* § 61-405, the Commission may extend the time for filing the annual report for up to sixty days. Because of the unique challenges facing public utilities as they prepare their annual report, we find it reasonable to extend the April 15, 2020 filing deadline.

The annual report is an important tool in the Commission’s regulatory tool chest. Staff relies on this resource to evaluate a public utility’s filings with the Commission. The more recent the annual report, the more useful it is. Therefore, we extend the annual report filing deadline only as long as we believe necessary. We distinguish between large public utilities, which have more employees and greater technological resources at their disposal, and small utilities, which often have fewer regulatory resources.

For public utilities with gross operating intrastate revenues greater than \$2 million, we authorize a 30-day extension. Annual reports must be filed by these public utilities by May 15, 2020. For public utilities with \$2 million or less in gross operating intrastate revenues, we authorize a 60-day extension. Annual reports must be filed by these public utilities by June 15, 2020.¹ Nevertheless, we encourage all public utilities to file their annual reports as soon as possible.

Our deadline extension today does not waive or impact any public utility's responsibility to file its gross intrastate operating report with the Commission. Nor does it waive assessment fee payments or change the due dates for such payments.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the April 15, 2020 deadline by which a public utility must file its annual report with the Commission is extended as follows:

1. Public utilities with gross operating intrastate revenues greater than \$2 million are granted a 30-day extension, and must file their annual reports by May 15, 2020.
2. Public utilities with gross operating intrastate revenues of \$2 million or less are granted a 60-day extension, and must file their annual reports by June 15, 2020.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. See *Idaho Code* § 61-626.

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¹ 60 days from April 15, 2020 falls on Sunday, June 14, 2020. The filing deadline thus becomes the next business day, Monday, June 15, 2020. See Rule 17 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.017.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 15th
day of April 2020.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

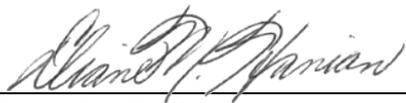


KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian
Commission Secretary

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